GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4470
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2002
FLOOD AND WATER LOGGING IN GANGA REGION
JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

the measures taken by the Government to tackle the problem of flood and water logging in Central Ganga Region particularlyin Tal area?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

Flood Management being a State subject, flood control schemes including schemes for water logging are planned, funded and executed by the State Governments themselves out oftheir own resources and as per their own priorities. The Centreal Government renders assistance that are technical, catalytical and supportive in nature.

The State of Bihar occupies the middle portion of the Gangabasin. It is severely suffering from floods and also drainage congestion in some areas. A number of steps have been taken to minimise the floods and water logging problems in the middle Ganga region including the Tal areas.

Ganga Flood Control Commission under the Ministry of WaterResources has prepared comprehensive plans for flood management for all the rivers causing floods in the Ganga basin and sent the same to the State Governments includingBihar for implementation of the recommendation made therein. Up-till now embankments, drainage channels, town protection works and a number of anti-erosion schemes as well as non structural measures such as flood forecasting and warning system and raised platforms (for providing temporary shelter during floods) have been taken up.

As regards water logging, about nine lakh hectare of land is suffering from the problem of waterlogging in Bihar, out of which about eight lakh hectare of land lies in North Biharand one lakh hectare of land in the Mokama Tal area in the Central Bihar. It has been found, after study by various expert committees that out of nine lakh hectare, it would not be economical to free 2.5 lakh hectare of land from waterlogging due to excessive depression. Pisiculture and other aqua-crops such as Makhana etc. have been suggested in these areas.

Till now about 1.5 lakh hectare of waterlogged area has been freed from waterlogging as reported by Government of Bihar. Thus remaining 5.0 lakh hectare of land remain to be freed from the waterlogging.

In the Central Sector, a pilot scheme namely, "Improvement of Drainage in Mokama Group of Talsin the Kiul HaroharRiver System in Ganga River System" estimated to cost Rs. 2.39 crore was also taken up during the year 2001-02.